Three Classes of People

- S.M. Lockridge

The Surprises of Lordship

Why is Lordship Necessary?

1. Lordship settles the <u>position</u> issue of my life.

(John 21:1-17)

2. Lordship settles the <u>permission</u> issue of my life.

(Luke 9:57-62)

3. Lordship settles the <u>profession</u> issue. (Matthew 7:21-23)

It answers the question, "Who is going to enter God's kingdom?"

The Two Surprises of Lordship

A. The Lord Himself is Surprised.

(Luke 6:46)

⁴⁶ "Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?"

⁴⁷ "I will show you what he is like who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice. ⁴⁸He is like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built. ⁴⁹But the one who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. The moment the torrent struck that house, it collapsed, and its destruction was complete" - Luke 6:46-49

The three steps to Lordship (Luke 6:47)

- A. Come to Him. "He who comes to me..."
- B. Listen to Him. "...and hears my words..."
- C. Obey Him. "...and puts them into practice."

B. Those with Empty Professions are Surprised.

"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. ²²Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' ²³Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!" - Matthew 7:21-23

Three truths from Jesus' teaching (Matthew 7:21-23):

- A. Saying the right words will not get me into His kingdom.
- B. Doing good works will not get me into His kingdom.
- C. Obeying God's will does get me into His kingdom.

"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven." - Matthew 7:21

- 1. Those who neither call Him "Lord" nor do the things He says.
- 2. Those who call Him "Lord" but do not do the things He says.
- 3. Those who call Him "Lord" and do the things He says.

The one major difference between the wise and foolish man: Obedience!

There's not much difference between spiritual success and failure.

$$3 \times 3 \times 3 \times 3 \times 3 = 243$$
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$$4 \times 4 \times 4 \times 4 \times 4 = 1024.$$

Partial obedience is not obedience at all... it's only convenience!

Wrong Types of "Obedience"

Selective Obedience - <u>I</u> determine when I'll obey.

Situational Obedience - The <u>situation</u> determines when I'll obey.

4. Lordship settles the <u>possession</u> issue. (Matthew 25:14-30)

It answers the question, "Who owns the things in my life?"

"Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called **his servants** and **entrusted his wealth to them**. ¹⁵ To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey."

- Matthew 25:14.15

What Does God Own?

1. Me!

"Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called <u>his servants</u> and entrusted his wealth to them." - Matthew 25:14

- He owns me because He created me and because He saved me.
- 2. Everything I possess.

"Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted <u>his wealth</u> to them." - Matthew 25:14

Lordship Law # 3

Partial obedience is not obedience at all, it is just convenience.

My Response:

The Surprises of Lordship

1. Where are your riches: children, friends, bank account, education, job advancement, self-image, strong body, beautiful memories, or family?

From this series on Lordship, to whom should you attribute your good fortune or blessing? What is the difference between "owner" and "steward"?

2. Considering the sermon as a whole, is your foundation on solid rock? Or on sand with a nice view?

What would you have to tear down in order to shore up that foundation?

3. If the Master returned today, what would He say about how well you have been using what He gave you? How have you worked at developing it? What kind of responsibility do you feel toward God regarding your talents?

4. What area of obedience is God requiring of you that you are not yet ready to release to Him? What steps will you take toward obedience?

For Next Week: Four Signs of Lordship

Read Luke 12:13-48

1. Advertising is dedicated to making us think verse 15 is wrong. What lifestyle differences result from believing Jesus instead of the advertisements?

2. What is Jesus' teaching about seeking the kingdom in verses 22-34?

3. Why does Jesus say they should be ready in verses 39-40? Who is the thief?

4. What should be the attitude and actions of the faithful and wise manager? (vs. 42-43)

5. If you knew that in 30 days' time Jesus was returning, what would you do to get things ready for inspection?

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